(b) the measures proposed to acquire permanent membership of the Security Council?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) During the bilateral discussions with the President of Brazil, commercial relations and cooperation between the two countries were discussed. It was noted that there was ample scope for further expansion of bilateral trade and economic cooperation in areas like electronics, computer software, telecommunication, aviation, railways, steel, pharmaceuticals, traditional Indian medicine, automobiles, motor-cycles, scooters and cycles. Possibilities of collaborations and joint ventures in some of the areas were also discussed. The Brazilian side has shown keenness to obtain fresh genetic material from India for their cattle. About 80% of the Brazilian cattle is from Gujarat and Andhra Pradesh. An Implementing Arrangement for Cooperation in the field of Health and Medicine under the bilateral agreement on Science & Technology was also signed which will help in expanding trade exchanges in these sectors.

(b) the two Presidents discussed the question of reform of the Security Council. During the discusssions, India and Brazil renewed their support for each other's candidature for the permanent seat in the expanded Security Council as pledged in the Joint Declaration issued at the end of President Cardoso's visit to India in January 1996. Both countries agreed to work closely together to achieve this objective.

Signing of CTBT during US President's Visit

929. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether India propose to sign Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty during US President's proposed visit this year; and

(b) the reasons for deviating from the past practice?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE):

(a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Orientation Programme for Haj Pilgrims

930. SHRI AHMED PATEL: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government had conducted any orientation programme for the Haj pilgrims before their departure for Haj;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether booklets giving information about the Haj facilities available and do's and dont's are also supplied in advance to every Haji;

(d) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(e) the action Government propose to take in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE): (a) and (b) No, sir. Training/orientation programme are done for the Haj pilgrims by the Haj Committee, Mumbai, and the various State Haj Committees.

(c) to (e) A statement is laid on the Table of the House. (*See* below)

Statement

The Haj Committee, Mumbai conducts regular lecture classes at Haj House during the Haj season. Pilgrims stay for this in Mumbai for three days. In respect of other embarkation points like Delhi, Bangalore, Chennai, Calcutta and Srinagar, special training camps were orgranised last year and this year by the State Haj Committees concerned and voluntary organisations at District and Taluks level.

Annual camps are organised by organisations like Markazi-Khidmat-ul-Hujjaj, Aurangabad; the District Haj